

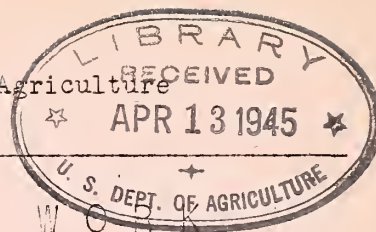
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Extension Service - United States Department of Agriculture



W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N

W O R K

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS
BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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Some items of interest in the week's summary: Reports on the emergency farm labor program; activities of 4-H Club boys and girls in buying war bonds and stamps; diversified war work of home demonstration agents; and a campaign for increased soybean planting for nutrition and profit.

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KENTUCKY

September 15, 1943

Farm labor.-Fifty-five emergency farm labor assistants have been appointed to work with State office and county agents in equalizing labor supply between counties, and interstate. Considerably fewer workers were needed in tobacco harvest than had been expected because tobacco yield was reduced by drought, and farmers swapped work.

Survey revealed considerable labor available in remote parts of eastern Kentucky. Men and women are still going to defense plants or are doing farm work in other parts of Kentucky or in other States. Workers are often lent to other areas for limited time. For example, 160 laborers were sent to Massachusetts for cranberry harvest; about 1,000 helped with potato harvest in Maine; and workers have also been lent to Ohio.

Members of Women's Land Army have helped to relieve labor shortage throughout State, as women worked on their own farms. Jobs of milking, feeding livestock, gardening, caring for poultry, driving machines, setting and priming tobacco, stacking hay, and cutting corn were efficiently done. In Christian County 98 women enrolled in WLA in first month; in Graves County, 66; in Todd County, 56. Many reported spending half to two-thirds of their time in agricultural work.

Family cooperation is typified by Ray Gorbandt family in Oldham County. Both parents are neighborhood leaders, the mother serving also as 4-H Club leader. She is active member of homemakers' club and of WLA. All six children are members of 4-H Club, and helped relieve labor shortage on 525-acre farm.

Soil building.--Great increase in use of lime and phosphate indicates Kentucky farmers are aware of value of these minerals. In past 10 years, 8,000,000 tons of limestone have been used, enough to lime 1 out of every 4 acres of crop and plowable pasture land at rate of 2 tons to the acre. In past 3 years, it is estimated, enough phosphates have been used to provide equivalent of 300 pounds to the acre of 20 percent superphosphate on 40 percent of all crop and plowable pasture land in State.

4-H Clubs.--Kentucky 4-H Club boys and girls, 102,000 strong, are working to buy enough war bonds and stamps to pay for big bomber. They expect to complete job by October 15 when district achievement meetings will be held all over State. Check made at 5 of 11 conferences during summer showed 676 boys and girls had invested \$46,419 in bonds and stamps. At third sale of bonds and stamps in Barren County, 4-H members realized \$1,423. Perry County members set their goal at \$10,000 in bonds and stamps; other counties have goals of \$1,000 to \$5,000.

To prevent any fruits or vegetables from being lost, information on their storage will be discussed in fall 4-H Club meetings. Members and leaders will explain approved methods of cellar, mound, and barrel storage that they learned through actual construction at district wartime conferences.

Harlan County, Ky.--This year, Harlan County, deep in the mountains, in highly industrialized section with big coal mines, has broken many of its own food production and conservation records. More baby chicks were sold during summer than in any other 3 years combined. Eight hundred 4-H Club boys and girls carrying farm projects are planting fall gardens, including greens, turnips, chinese cabbage, and Bibb lettuce. Working day and night, 10 homemakers' club members canned fruits and vegetables from their gardens while they had use of borrowed pressure cooker.

Spraying program.--Complete spray program and annual treatment for borers are credited with prolonging usefulness of 24-year-old fruit trees in 65-acre orchard in McCracken County. Yield of orchard was approximately 4,000 bushels of peaches and 16,000 bushels of apples. In Johnson County, fruit growers who invested \$2 in spraying materials, realized \$50 a tree in fruit harvested.

Wild berries.--In Rockcastle County, where 360 tons of uncultivated blackberries were picked and sold, families earned as much as \$100 in berry season.

OREGON

September 1, 1943

Farm labor.--For third successive month, farm labor program was foremost in work of entire staff. Labor demands reached year's peak in most counties and were met successfully, on the whole. Scattering losses resulting from labor shortage were less than those of a year ago when situation was considered satisfactory.

Great assistance was given by 3,000 Mexican nationals brought in by Extension. Almost without exception their work was entirely satisfactory. Use of these workers prevented probable substantial loss in several areas. Recruitment of

citizens and youths, however, was carried on in all counties as main method of meeting labor shortages. In seven counties, home demonstration agents helped labor committees and farm labor assistants in enlisting women for farm work and in obtaining leaders for platoon groups.

Lamb marketing.-Successful efforts were made to relieve critical lamb marketing situation in western Oregon. Lack of market outlets held about 100,000 lambs on farms, where they were declining rapidly. An increase of quotas of slaughterers relieved situation. As result, probably 50,000 lambs were moved, including 10,000 from one county, but at prices somewhat under last year's.

Food preservation.-Food preservation continued to be main project in 15 counties that have home demonstration agents. In other counties this work was carried on by specialists. Demonstrations in canning, freezing, drying, and storing were featured. In three counties home demonstration agents cooperated in promoting community canneries that were sponsored by vocational education workers.

Home Demonstration agents.-During month, home demonstration agents held 203 meetings attended by more than 5,000 persons. War emergency activities of agents included teaching of Red Cross nutrition classes, organizing and assisting with canteen units, helping at blood donor stations, organizing war bond campaigns, passing on pressure-cooker applications, working with county nutrition committees, recruiting women to help in farm work.

4-H Club work.-Arrangements for fall fairs and exhibits took leading place in 4-H Club program during August. Although State fair and Pacific International Live-stock Exposition will not be held and most county fairs have been canceled, a large number of exhibits are still open to 4-H Club members. In many counties leaders have solved transportation problem by organizing numerous community or district fairs. These provide stimulating competition for members and give opportunity for display of year's accomplishments. Because of labor needs and transportation difficulties, only two 4-H Club camps were held - one in Klamath County for boys, and one in Multnomah County for girls.

War bond drive.-County extension agents were active in assisting war bond sales committees in organizing rural districts for national bond sales drive. In most counties special committees were set up, usually including large number of neighborhood leaders, sometimes to extent of 50 percent.

PUERTO RICO
September 1, 1943

Nutrition.-During August special attention was given to organizing local nutrition committees. All field personnel and some members of staff took part. Nine regional conferences were held and 17 local committees organized. Total of 300 attended 16 training meetings for leaders in health and nutrition; 9 training meetings were given for industry leaders. Proper food preparation as related to nutrition was also emphasized.

Soybeans.-For a year field personnel has been conducting intensive campaigns to get farmers to plant more and more soybeans. Chief reason is high nutritive value of soybeans, which have 100 percent more proteins than dry beans customarily eaten. Soybeans also produce more per acre than dry beans. Plantings so far indicate soybean is promising crop for Puerto Rico, whereas dry beans have been found risky. In August, total of 423 persons attended 25 method demonstrations on home preparation of soybeans.